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Status of budget implementation for UNICEF support to the special session on children and associated events

Summary

As the Special Session on Children was postponed by the General Assembly (decision 56/401 of 12 September 2001), the secretariat is presenting this second interim report to inform the Executive Board on the status of the budget implementation for UNICEF support to the Special Session and associated events. It also contains a draft decision for Executive Board approval.

1. As the Special Session on Children was postponed by the General Assembly (decision 56/401 of 12 September 2001), UNICEF is presenting this second interim report to inform the Executive Board on the status of the budget implementation and to urge to all Member States to contribute to the remaining unfunded portion.

2. By its decision 1999/12 (E/ICEF/1999/7/Rev.1), the Executive Board approved start-up funding in the amount of $2,000,000. An additional budget in the amount of $5,400,000 was approved by decision 2000/6 (E/ICEF/2000/8/Rev.1). An interim report on the use of the funds was presented to the 2001 annual session of the Executive Board in response to decision 2000/6.

3. This second interim report on the status of budget implementation also serves to reassure the Board that UNICEF could still provide adequate support to the Special Session on Children utilizing the already approved budget:

* E/ICEF/2001/12.

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	(In United States dollars)
Total approved budget	7 400 000
Funds available as of September 2001	6 267 335
Expenditure and commitment as of October 2001	5 387 926
Uncommitted funds balance as of October 2001	578 238
Unfunded balance	1 132 665

4. Expenditure and commitment lines were combined to give a clear and realistic picture, as the process was suspended unexpectedly. This amounts to $5,387,926, representing some expenditures that are final, and others that remain committed and will become final at the end of the year, leaving an uncommitted balance as of October 2001 of $578,238.

5. The unfunded portion of the budget amounts to $1,132,665, or 15 per cent of the total budget.

6. As it has now been decided by the General Assembly to convene the Special Session on Children in 2002, the role of UNICEF as the substantive secretariat, and in support of the children's forum, will continue to have financial and human resources implications. Although UNICEF, as the substantive secretariat, will try its utmost to support the process and the organization of the Special Session in 2002 within the amount already approved ($7.4 million), this can only be achieved if Member States contribute to the unfunded balance of the approved budget $1,132,665.

7. UNICEF was to provide a final report on the use of the funds to the Executive Board at its annual session in 2002 (decision 2000/6). In view of the fact that the Special Session will only be convened in 2002, the secretariat is proposing to postpone the presentation of the final report on the use of the funds until the first regular Board session in 2003.

Draft recommendation

8. The Executive Director *recommends* that the Executive Board adopt the following draft recommendation on reporting on the use of the funds:

The Executive Board

1. *Decides* that in light of the Special Session on Children being postponed (General Assembly decision 56/401 of 12 September 2001) until 2002, the Executive Director will provide a final report on the use of the funds to the Executive Board at its first regular session of 2003 instead of at its annual session of 2002;

2. *Urges* that Members States contribute to the unfunded balance of $1,132,665 to ensure that UNICEF, as the substantive secretariat, can adequately support the preparations and arrangements of the Special Session and the Children's Forum.